

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 INR-07

NSC-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 STR-05 LAB-04 /069 W

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FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4441

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

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PARIS FOR OECD

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN ETRD NZ

SUBJECT: US APPROACH TO GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN (GOJ) ON
CURRENT ACCOUNT SURPLUS

REF: (A) STATE 274361 (B) WELLINGTON 3539

1 IN ACCORDANCE WITH INSTRUCTIONS REFTEL EMBOFF
BRIEFED ACTING CHIEF OF ECONOMIC DIVISION, MINISTRY OF
FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND CHIEF OF EXTERNAL ECONOMICS AT THE
TREASURY ON DETAILS OF US APPROACH TO GOJ. BOTH INDIVID-
UALS WERE VERY GRATEFUL FOR THE ADVANCE NOTIFICATION BUT
WERE DOUBTFUL THE US ACTION WOULD HAVE MUCH REAL MEANING
FOR NEW ZEALAND. MFA OFFICIAL SAID GOVERNMENT OF NEW
ZEALAND (GNZ) FOUND THE JAPANESE ATTITUDE PARTICULARLY
HARD TO UNDERSTAND AS THE GNZ HAD BEEN CAREFUL TO LIMIT
THEIR MARKET ACCESS REQUESTS TO THINGS THAT THE GNZ FELT
WERE REASONABLY FEASIBLE FOR THE GOJ. BOTH OFFICIALS TO
WHOM WE SPOKE ALSO HOPED THAT ANY MOVES TO URGE AN
OPENING OF JAPANESE MARKETS TO GREATER IMPORTS WOULD
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INCLUDE AGRICULTURAL AS WELL AS MANUFACTURED GOODS.
(FYI: IN LAST SUMMER'S ANZUS TALKS DEPUTY SECRETARY
CHRISTOPHER ASKED IF THERE WAS ANY WAY THE US COULD HELP
NEW ZEALAND VIS-A-VIS JAPAN, AN OFFER WHICH NEW ZEALAND
FOREIGN MINISTER TALBOYS WARMLY WELCOMED.)

2 US APPROACH TO THE JAPANESE HAS NOW BEEN WIDELY

REPORTED IN THE PRESS HERE WITH EMPHASIS ON THE VIEW THAT
"SOMETHING" HAS TO BE DONE TO MOVE JAPAN TOWARD A MORE
LIBERAL IMPORT POLICY. ALONG THESE LINES PRIME MINISTER
MULDOON'S RECENT REPORTED STATEMENTS IN LOS ANGELES
THAT JAPAN NEEDED TO BE "DRAGGED KICKING AND SCREAMING"
INTO THE MODERN INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMUNITY AND
COMMENTS BY AN UNIDENTIFIED US OFFICIAL THAT "JAPAN
SIMPLY HAS TO BE BROUGHT TO ITS SENSES" RECEIVED
ESPECIALLY LARGE PRESS PLAY HERE. HEALY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Concepts: ACCOUNTS, ECONOMIC CONDITIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 25-Nov-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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